

CITY OF VERONA

MINUTES

PARK, RECREATION & FORESTRY COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018

1. The meeting was called to order by chairperson Mike Bare at 7:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Present: Mike Bare, Paul Schmidt, Heather Reekie, Mark Giesfeld, Charlotte Jerney. Also present: Dave Walker, Parks Director; Casey Dudley, Recreation Director; Jeff Mikorski, City Administrator.
3. Moved by Reekie, seconded by Jerney, to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2018 meeting of the Park, Recreation, and Forestry Commission. Motion carried 5-0.
4. Casey Dudley presented the Commission with an amended fee structure for baseball and softball field useage. Fees for all users went up by an average of \$20 per game and a new category was created for 'select' tournament teams with a per hour based fee structure. This was due to the fact that most of these teams are operated on a 'for profit' basis and do not play many games in Verona but rather have numerous hour-long practices.
5. Moved by Giesfeld, seconded by Schmidt, to amend baseball and softball field use fees as presented. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Jeff Mikorski updated the Commission on the status of 2019 budget requests. As a whole, the City was still looking to cut nearly \$400,000 from department proposals but no major changes were being considered for Parks, Recreation, or Forestry. The final budget was scheduled for presentation and adoption in mid-November.
7. Dave Walker updated the Commission on the status of the Fireman's Park project. Recent wet weather had been hampering progress but the contractor was still on schedule to meet the completion date of June 19, 2019. Excavation in the parking lot area had also uncovered an abandoned fuel tank with an area of contaminated soil around it. It remained unclear what the extent of the cleanup would be but it was certain to add to the cost and timeline of the project. A bit of good news to report was that the City had been awarded a DNR stewardship grant for the project in the amount of \$192,000.
8. The Commission reviewed a special event request for a wedding at Festival Park on June 22, 2019. Final approval would not be granted until the January meeting but the bride to be requested a cursory review so that she could have some surety of the location as she proceeded with her planning. The Commission had no issues with the request as presented.
9. Moved by Reekie, seconded by Jerney, to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. Time 7:45 p.m.

Mike Bare
Chairperson